

**CERCLA 104(e) INFORMATION REQUEST**

**URGENT LEGAL MATTER: PROMPT REPLY REQUESTED**

**CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED #7011 0110 0001 3590 2997**

Lear Corporation  
21557 Telegraph Road  
Southfield, MI 48033

Re: West County Road 112 Ground Water Superfund Site  
Intersection between County Road (CR) 112 & CR 1205, Midland, TX 79706

Dear Sir/Madam:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) seeks cooperation from Lear Corporation in providing information and documents relating to the West County Road 112 Ground Water Superfund Site (Site) in Midland County, Texas. Obtained information will aid the EPA in its investigation of the release or threat of release of certain hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants at this Site. Your response will also help the EPA develop a better understanding of activities that occurred at the Site.

This information request is not a determination that you are responsible or potentially responsible for contamination that occurred at the Site. The EPA is sending this letter as part of its investigation of the Site and does not expect you to pay for or perform any site-related activities at this time. If the EPA determines that you are responsible or potentially responsible for response activities at the Site, you will receive a separate letter clearly stating such a determination as well as the EPA's basis for such determination.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 104(e), 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e), gives the EPA the authority to require the respondent to respond to this information request (see Enclosure 1). We encourage you to give this matter your full attention, and we respectfully request you to respond to this request for information within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter. You may designate another official with the requisite authority to respond on behalf of yourself. However, failure to respond to this information request may result in the EPA seeking penalties of up to \$37,500 per day of violation. In addition, furnishing false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations is subject to criminal penalty under 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

Please provide a written response to Mr. Robert Werner, Enforcement Officer, at the address included in the Information Request. Please refer to Enclosure 2 for important instructions and definitions and Enclosure 3 for specific questions that require your response to this Information Request.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, contact Mr. Werner at (214) 665-6724. For legal questions concerning this letter, please have your legal counsel contact Mr. Marvin Benton, at (214) 665-3109. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Wren Stenger, Associate Director  
Technical and Enforcement Branch  
Superfund Division

Enclosures (3)

## **ENCLOSURE 1**

### **WEST COUNTY ROAD 112 GROUND WATER SUPERFUND SITE INFORMATION REQUEST**

#### **RESPONSE TO INFORMATION REQUEST**

Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as the federal "Superfund" law, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) responds to the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants into the environment to stop additional contamination and to clean-up or otherwise address any prior contamination.

The EPA is requesting information under CERCLA Section 104(e). Section 104(e) may be found in the United States Code (U.S.C.) at Title 42 Section (section is denoted by the symbol "§") 9604(e), 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e).

Pursuant to the authority of CERCLA §104(e), you are hereby requested to respond to the enclosed information request. If you have any questions concerning the West County Road 112 Ground Water Superfund Site (Site) or this information request letter, please contact Mr. Robert Werner, the designated Enforcement Officer for the Site, at phone number (214) 665-6724, fax number (214) 665-6660, or via email at [werner.robert@epa.gov](mailto:werner.robert@epa.gov). Please mail your response within 30 calendar days of your receipt of this request to the following address:

Mr. Robert Werner, Enforcement Officer  
Superfund Enforcement Assessment Section (6SF-TE)  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

If you or your attorney has legal questions that pertain to this information letter request, please contact Mr. Marvin Benton at phone number (214) 665-3109, fax number (214) 665-6460 or via email at [benton.marvin@epa.gov](mailto:benton.marvin@epa.gov). For contact via mail, use the following address:

Mr. Marvin Benton  
Office of Regional Counsel (6RC-S)  
U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Site is a ground water plume contaminated with chromium. The source(s) of chromium in the plume has not yet been unidentified. The Site's name does not refer to potentially responsible parties for the Site nor does it indicate the Site's area is confined within boundaries of specific properties or specific roads.

The chromium contaminated ground water plume at the Site underlies an area immediately south of Interstate 20 (I-20) in the southwest quadrant of the I-20 and Cotton Flat Road intersection. The northern portion of the Site extends to within the city limits of Midland, Texas. The remaining portion of the Site's land area extends in a southeasterly direction from the City of Midland, Texas into Midland County, Texas.

## ENCLOSURE 2

### WEST COUNTY ROAD 112 GROUND WATER SUPERFUND SITE INFORMATION REQUEST

#### **INSTRUCTIONS and DEFINITIONS**

1. Please provide a separate narrative response for each and every Question and subpart of a Question set forth in this Information Request.
2. Precede each answer with the Question (or subpart) and the number of the Question (and the letter of a subpart of a Question, if applicable) to which it corresponds.
3. If information or documents not known or not available to you as of the date of submission of a response to this Information Request should later become known or available to you, ***you must supplement*** your response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Moreover, should you find, at any time, after submission of your response, that any portion of the submitted information is false or misrepresents the truth, or, though correct when made, is no longer true, you must notify the EPA of this fact as soon as possible and provide the EPA with a corrected response.
4. For each document produced in response to this Information Request, indicate on the document, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the Question (and the letter of a subpart of a Question, if applicable) to which it responds.
5. You may assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information which you submit in response to this request. Any such claim must be made by placing on (or attaching to) the information, at the time it is submitted to the EPA, a cover sheet or a stamped or typed legend or other suitable form of notice employing language such as "trade secret," "proprietary," or "company confidential." Confidential portions of otherwise non-confidential documents should be clearly identified and may be submitted separately to facilitate identification and handling by the EPA. If you make such a claim, the information covered by that claim will be disclosed by the EPA only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set forth in subpart B of 40 CFR Part 2. If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by the EPA, it may be made available to the public by the EPA without further notice to you. The requirements of 40 CFR Part 2 regarding business confidentiality claims were published in the Federal Register on September 1, 1976, and were amended September 8, 1976, and December 18, 1985.
6. Personal Privacy Information. Personnel and medical files, and similar files the disclosure of which to the general public may constitute an invasion of privacy should be segregated from your responses, included on separate sheet(s), and marked as "Personal Privacy Information."
7. Objections to questions. If you have objections to some or all the questions within the Information Request Letter, you are still required to respond to each of the questions.

## **DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions shall apply to the following words as they appear in this enclosure:

1. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively as necessary to bring within the scope of this Information Request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope.
2. The term "any", as in "any documents" for example, shall mean "any and all."
3. The term "arrangement" means every separate contract or other agreement between two or more persons.
4. The terms "document(s)" and "documentation" shall mean any object that records, stores, or presents information, and includes writings of any kind, formal or informal, whether or not wholly or partially in handwriting, including by way of illustration and not by way of limitation, any invoice, manifest, bill of lading, receipt, endorsement, check, bank draft, canceled check, deposit slip, withdrawal slip, order, correspondence, record book, minutes, memorandum of telephone and other conversations including meetings, agreements and the like, diary, calendar, desk pad, scrapbook, notebook, bulletin, circular, form, pamphlet, statement, journal, postcard, letter, telegram, telex, telecopy, telefax, report, notice, message, analysis, comparison, graph, chart, map, interoffice or intra office communications, photostat or other copy of any documents, microfilm or other film record, any photograph, sound recording on any type of device, any punch card, disc pack; any tape or other type of memory generally associated with computers and data processing (together with the programming instructions and other written material necessary to use such punch card, disc, or disc pack, tape or other type of memory and together with the printouts of such punch card, disc, or disc pack, tape or other type of memory); and (a) every copy of each document which is not an exact duplicate of a document which is produced, (b) every copy which has any writing, figure or notation, annotation or the like on it, (c) drafts, (d) attachments to or enclosures with any document and (e) every document referred to in any other document.
5. The term "identify" means, with respect to a natural person, to set forth the person's name, present or last known business and personal addresses, email address(es), and telephone numbers, and present or last known job title, position or business. Also provide e-mail addresses.
6. The term "identify" means, with respect to a corporation, partnership, business trust or other association or business entity (including, but not limited to, a sole proprietorship), to set forth its full name, address, and legal form (e.g. corporation [including state of incorporation], partnership, etc.), organization, if any, a brief description of its business, and to indicate whether or not it is still in existence and, if it is no longer in existence, to explain how its existence was terminated and to indicate the date on which it ceased to exist. Also provide e-mail addresses.
7. The term "identify" means, with respect to a document, to provide the type of document, to provide its customary business description, its date, its number, if any (invoice or purchase order

number), subject matter, the identity of the author, addressor, addressee and/or recipient, and the present location of such document.

8. The term "person" shall have the same definition as in Subsection 101 (21) of CERCLA, 42U.S.C. §9601 (21).
9. The term "Site" or "facility" shall mean and include the West County Road 112 Ground Water Superfund Site in Midland County, Texas.
10. The term "you" or "Respondent" shall mean the addressee of this Request, the addressee's officers, managers, employees, contractors, trustees, partners, successors and agents.
11. Words in the masculine shall be construed in the feminine, and vice versa, and words in the singular shall be construed in the plural, and vice versa, where appropriate in the context of a particular question or questions as necessary to bring within the scope of this Information Request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope.
12. All terms not defined herein shall have their ordinary meaning, unless such terms are defined in CERCLA, RCRA, 40 CFR Part 300 or 40 CFR Parts 260-280, in which case the statutory or regulatory definitions shall apply.

### **ENCLOSURE 3**

#### **WEST COUNTY ROAD 112 GROUND WATER SUPERFUND SITE INFORMATION REQUEST**

##### **GENERATOR QUESTIONS**

1. Identify the person(s) that provides answers to the questions below on behalf of the Lear Corporation (Respondent).
2. Does the Respondent wish to designate an individual for future correspondence from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that associates the Respondent to this Site? If yes, please provide the individual's name, address, telephone number, and fax number.
3. Please provide Respondent's current legal name, Respondent's previous legal name(s), previous fictitious name(s), Federal Identification Number, Michigan corporate identification number, Delaware corporate seven digit file number, Michigan executive office mailing address, Michigan executive office phone number, and fax number.
4. Please identify the Respondent's corporate parent and all of its corporate subsidiaries.
5. Please identify the beginning and ending dates for the period during which Respondent was recognized by the Texas Secretary of State to conduct business in the State of Texas.
6. Provide the laboratory and sample data, well logs, studies, and any other relevant data collected during Respondent's investigation and cleanup of the property at 3 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas in preparation of the Affected Property Assessment Report (APAR) report submitted to TCEQ.
7. Concerning Respondent's relationship with Texas Plastics, Inc., and/or any business entity with a name that began with the words "Texas Plastics," and that also had involvement with real property located at 4 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas:
  - A. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to any agreement(s), or intended agreement(s), between Respondent and any business entity with a name that began with the words "Texas Plastics," and that also had involvement with real property located at 4 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas.
  - B. At any time has Respondent merged with, or acquired, any business entity with a name that began with the words "Texas Plastics" and that also had involvement with real property located at 4 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas? If your answer to this question is yes, please explain and provide a copy of the final merger agreement(s) and/or final purchase contract(s).



8. Concerning the former B &W Welding & Construction, Inc. (B&W) facility located at 3 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas:
  - A. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to Respondent's use, or intended use, of real property located at 3 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas.
  - B. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to any agreement(s), or intended agreement(s), between Respondent and B&W.
  - C. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to any agreement(s), or intended agreement(s), between Respondent and the owner, and/or owner's representative, of the real property located at 3 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas.
9. Concerning the former Lear Corporation facility located at 4 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas (facility at 4 South):
  - A. Please identify the dates that Respondent leased, purchased, and began operating the facility at 4 South.
  - B. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to Respondent's use, or intended use, of the facility at 4 South.
  - C. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to any agreement(s), or intended agreement(s), between Respondent and the owner, and/or owner's representative, of the facility at 4 South.
  - D. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to all leaks, spills, or releases into the environment of any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants that occurred during the period when Respondent leased, owned, and/or operated the facility at 4 South.
  - E. Please identify and provide a copy of all documents having information that pertains to any use, and/or release, of chromium or hexavalent chromium, or material containing chromium or hexavalent chromium that occurred and/or suspected to have occurred on or near the real property located at 4 South Industrial Loop, Midland, Texas prior to the period that Respondent owned, leased, and/or operated the facility at 4 South.
  - F. Identify all leaks, spills, or releases into the environment of any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants that occurred during the period when Respondent leased, owned, and/or operated the facility at 4 South.
10. At any time was chromium or hexavalent chromium, or material containing chromium or hexavalent chromium (hereafter "the material"), ever stored, disposed of, used or otherwise handled by Respondent during the period that Respondent leased, owned, and/or operated the

facility at 4 South: If your answer is yes to any part of this question, please answer the following questions that pertain only to the facility at 4 South:

- A. Identify the material(s), e.g., the chemical name(s) and composition, trade name(s).
- B. Identify the time period(s) during which the material(s) was used.
- C. Identify all persons who used the material(s) at the Site during the time period(s).
- D. Briefly describe the purpose for which the material(s) was used at the facility. If more than one use, describe each purpose and the time period(s) when each was used.
- E. Identify the total volume (in gallons) of the material(s) used during the time period(s), i.e., if more than one time period is involved also provide the volume for each time period.
- F. Briefly describe how and where the material(s) was stored at the facility.
- G. Identify the approximate average volume of the material(s) stored at the facility and, if the storage practice changed during the period(s), identify how and when.
- H. Identify the date(s) when the material(s) was delivered to the facility and in what volume(s).
- I. Briefly describe how the material(s) was delivered to the facility, i.e., in bulk or in closed containers.
- J. Briefly describe how the material(s) was transferred to the storage container(s) or tank(s) at the facility.
- K. Identify all equipment used to transfer the material(s) to the storage container(s) or tank(s) at the facility.
- L. Identify all personnel that transferred the material(s) to the storage container(s) or tank(s) at the facility.
- M. Identify the location(s) where the material(s) was used at the facility.
- N. Briefly describe how the material(s) was transported from on-site storage at the facility to the point where it was applied, in what amounts, and how this was done, e.g., using containers, hoses, piping, and/or other equipment.

- O. Briefly describe the procedure(s) for cleaning each piece(s) of equipment in which, at any time, the material(s) was stored, transported, and/or processed at the facility. Description should identify how, where, when, and by whom the item(s) of equipment was cleaned.
  - P. Briefly describe how and where containers for the material(s) were removed from the facility.
  - Q. If any of the practices described in your responses to the above sub-questions changed during the period that Respondent leased, owned, and/or operated the facility, describe the change(s) and when it occurred.
- 11. Please provide a copy of all documents having information about discussion(s), agreement(s), and/or decision(s) by the Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Court that concern Respondent's release of chromium in any part of Midland County, Texas.
  - 12. To the extent of your knowledge and belief, identify all of the material(s) that had been sold, stored, disposed of, used, or otherwise handled at the 3 South facility prior the period that Respondent leased, owned, and/or operated the facility at 4 South.
  - 13. If you believe there may be any person(s) able to provide a more detailed or complete response to any of the preceding questions and/or sub-questions or any person(s) who may be able to provide additional responsive documents, please identify such person(s) and the additional information you believe they may have.

Werner, 9/01/2011, 104(e) Information Request to Lear Corporation

Malott	Johnson	Benton	Peycke	Wooster
6SF-R	6SF-TE	6RC-S	6RC-S	6SF-T